

OVER 460 ILLUSTRATIONS



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THE STORY OF Jan. 1952. SAXON AND NORMAN BRITAIN TOLD IN PICTURES

By

C. W. AIRNE, M.A. (Cantab.)

OVER 460 ILLUSTRATIONS DEPICTING THE HISTORY OF BRITAIN IN SAXON AND NORMAN TIMES

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MANCHESTER:
THOMAS HOPE AND SANKEY-HUDSON LTD.

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Bexhill Museum
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1. THE .ANGLO-SAXONS. A.D. 410-1066.

The Anglo-Saxon or English Conquest (A.D. 449-613) marks the beginning of our national history, as it destroyed the Roman Civilization in Britain and established the English race and nation with its own distinctive language, society, institutions and government. The early English were pagans inferior to the Romans, but they were not barbarians. They understood the Roman Civilisation, but discarded it as unsuited to essentially agricultural communities. Upon their conversion to Christianity (A.D. 597-664), their civilization rapidly improved; their cultural progress being directed by the Christian Church, whose efficient organization ably assisted the civil governments, instituted maturer systems of law and justice, fostered religious and secular learning and encouraged craftsmanship and the arts, especially literature and music.

The English were characterized by their intense love of freedom, their reliance upon the ties of kinship and their inherent capacity for co-operation and unity. In Britain, they instituted a complete system of self-government which became in practice a rude constitutional monarchy conducted by a King and a Witan or national council, composed chiefly of eorls or nobles of hereditary rank and gesiths or professional warriors, who afterwards formed a lower nobility as thegas or thanes by acquiring minimum holdings of land. The main body of the people ranked as ceorls or free landowners, but there was also a large class of serfs or theows composed of prisoners of war and men enslaved through debt or crime. Local government was administered by moots or meetings attended by freemen or their representatives, but in the course of time, these moots passed into the hands of the local eorls, the thegas and the King's reeves or representatives. In principle, government was simple. In practice it became involved, as the common rights of the various classes were supplemented by common responsibilities, the most exacting being military service and the maintenance of the judicial and agricultural systems.

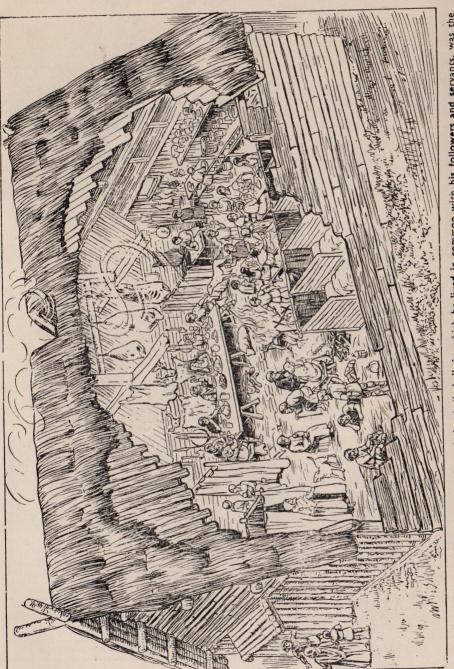
Agriculture was the mainstay of the English people, who grew crops of wheat, oats and barley, and reared cattle, pigs and sheep, not by individual enterprise, but under a characteristic system in which each village community held its arable and pasture land in common ownership, and was responsible for the due sequence of agricultural operations. Manufactures were domestic, the universal craftsmen being the spinner, weaver, shoemaker, carpenter and smith. Trade was negligible until stimulated by the Danes who also developed an extensive commerce with Ireland, France, Germany and Scandinavia.

Though the English were rude warriors and farmers, their potentialities were expressed in their crafts. Throughout the period, the ordinary folk were content with ill-made pottery, rough wooden bowls, coarsely woven cloth and cheap ornaments of bone and bronze. But their more wealthy warriors were vain, extravagant men who loved fine clothing, ornaments, trappings of gold and silver, and richly decorated shields and weapons. Their songs describe vividly their passion for precious stones and metals and their delight in beautiful crafts. Their nimble-fingered smiths, they said, were descendants of their gods, for their heavy bronze helmets circled with silver bands were the cunning work of wizards. Their two-edged swords, with bronze hilts beaten to resemble boars, were magically wrought, and their gleaming shields, bronze studded and ringed with gold embodied charms to blind their enemies. The English had a passion for decoration; everything they made they beautified with graceful curves and carefully drawn designs, and often with a skill and certainty of touch little short of marvellous.

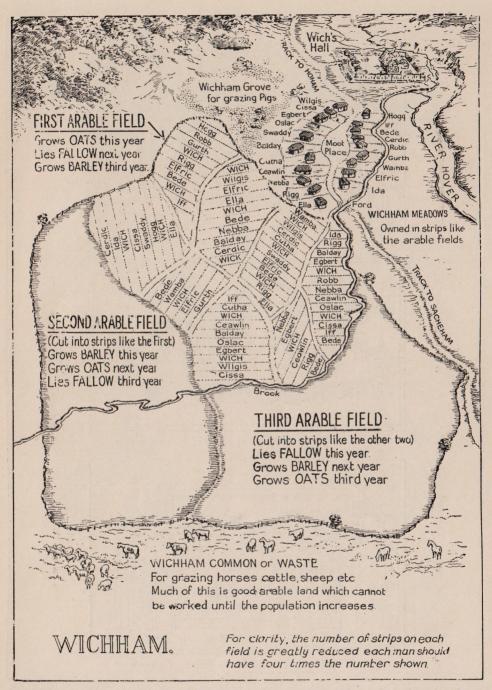
In every village, smiths were essential craftsmen, though delicate work in metals, such as chasing, enamelling, plating and inlaying, was done by jewellers, chiefly in the monasteries. Other crafts were also specialized. Potters moulded dishes, urns and vases; coopers made wooden tubs; carpenters turned wooden bowls and basins, or with axe and adze, planed timber into planks for halls and ships. Nor were women idle. They herded cattle and tended sheep, spun wool into thread which they dyed and wove into heavy cloth, and tanned hides into leather. They cared for the home, ground corn, baked bread, and made clothing, embroidering many of their garments with designs in coloured threads. Clothing was simple and serviceable, the men wearing a woollen shirt or tunic, long woollen trousers and thick stockings. When working out of doors, they wore skin or leather garments, and at other times fur or leather tunics with heavy cloaks fastened by buckles, tur caps and gloves, and leather belts and shoes. Women, too, used woollen clothing, dressing in a long loose tunic which reached to their feet, and over this a coat with wide sleeves. Both men and wennen were vain and passionately fond of bracelets, brooches, rings and necklaces of bronze, gold and amber; and warriors were always splendidly arrayed for battle



THE ENGLISH CONQUEST, A.D. 449-613. The history of the English Conquest is obscure. It was accomplished by independent tribes of Saxons, Angles and Jutes who occupied Britain with the exception of Cornwall, Wales and Cumberland, where the surviving Roman-Britons or Celts maintained independent kingdoms.



AN EARLY ENGLISH HALL. A long, low, timber-built hall, in which he lived in common with his followers and servants, was the characteristic home of the Early English chief. It was apportioned for various domestic purposes, but the low standard imposed by its primitive conditions retarded English culture.



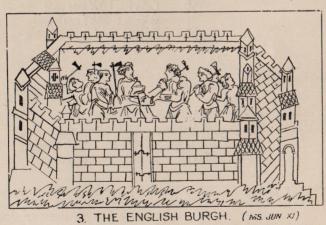
AN ENGLISH VILLAGE. Agriculture was the essential occupation of the Early English. Crops of oats and barley were grown in rotation in three large open fields in which strips or allotments were apportioned annually among the coorls or freemen.



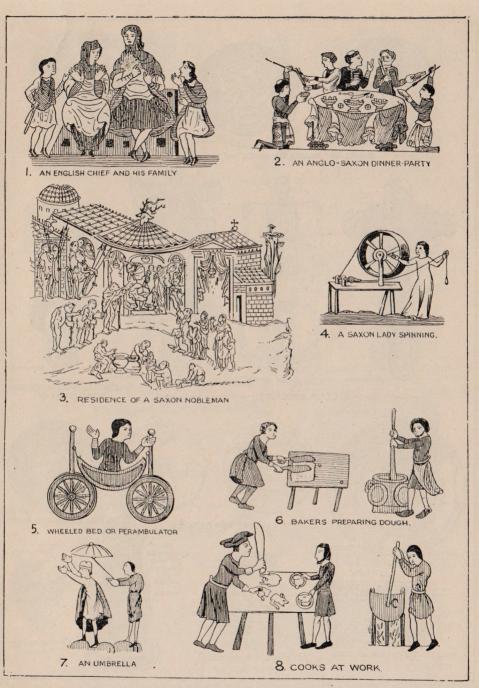
I. KING AND WITAN. (COTTON MS.)



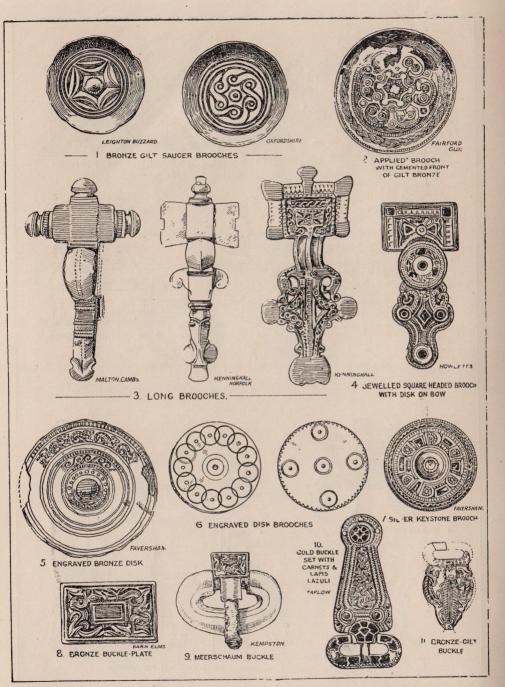
2. BUILDING A HOUSE (MS HARL 603)



ENGLISH KINGSHIP. National Government was controlled by a King and a Witan or Council of influential men. Owing to incessant warfare, the King's Hall developed into a fortress around which arose a burgh or strongly fortified town.



ENGLISH DOMESTIC LIFE. The household of an eorl or noble entailed an elaborate organization. He maintained a large body of armed followers, supported kinsmen and dependents, and employed numerous artisans and craftsmen in addition to his domestic servants and slaves.



ENGLISH JEWELLERY. The richest and commonest ornaments were the fibulae or brooches; they were exquisite works of art tastefully made. The Jutes preferred disk brooches; the Angles long brooches, and the Saxons saucer brooches made of highly gilt brass or bronze.



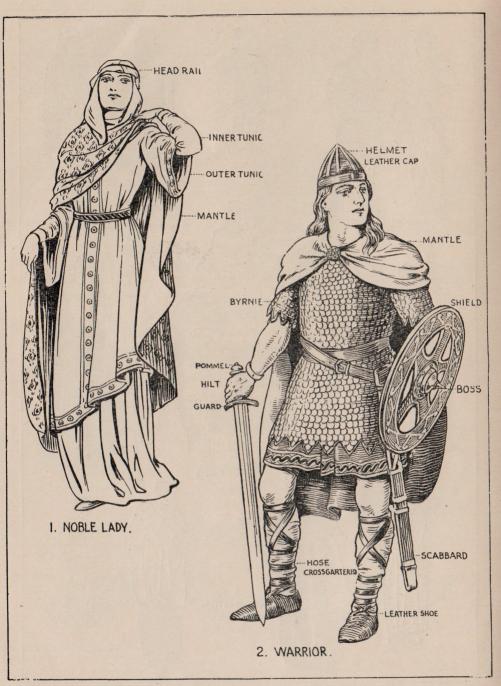
ENGLISH ORNAMENTS AND UTENSILS. Beautiful brooches were matched by equally beautiful clasps and buckles. Rings were usually simple circles of wire having twisted ends. Bronze pins were common and were sometimes enamelled and jewelled.



ENGLISH METALWORK. The skill of craftsmen was manifest in the many vessels in everyday household use. Drinking horns were enriched with silver gilt mounts. Buckets were made of iron and brass, or of wood strengthened with brass hoops embossed with figures of animals.



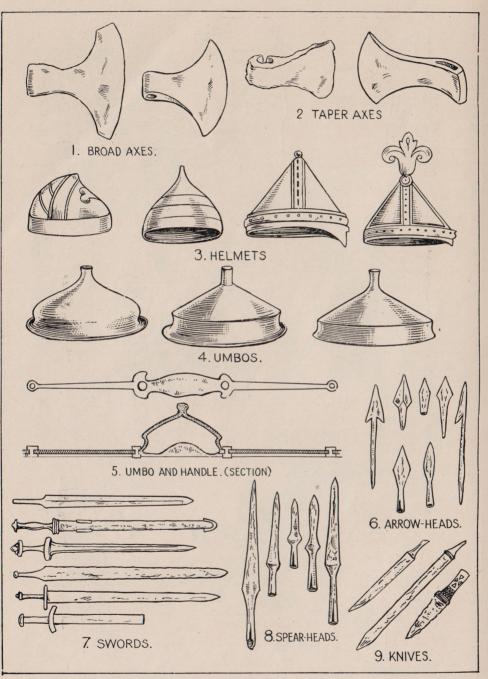
ENGLISH COSTUME. The English wore the simple but serviceable dress of a fighting and farming people. Both sexes wore the hair long—ladies dressing it in plaits—and both were rivals in their richness of attire, wealth of jewellery and love for finery. Children dressed like adults



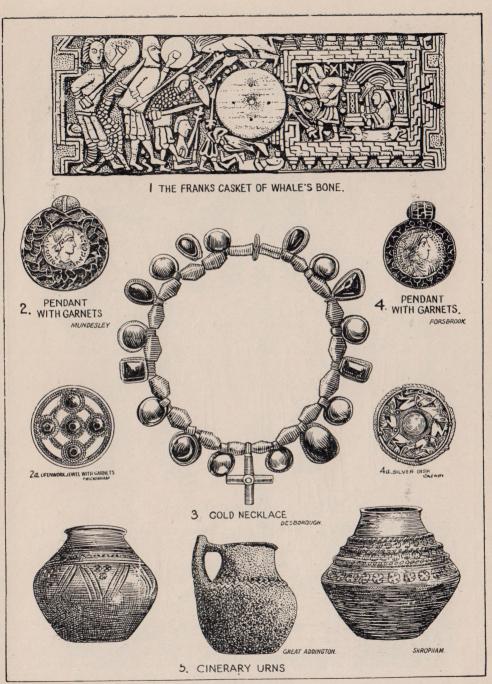
TYPICAL ENGLISH NOBLES. Living conditions necessitated woollen apparel. Linen was little used. Care for appearance and personal cleanliness is evidenced by the numerous toilet articles, notably bone combs, silver tweezers and toothpicks, tiny iron knives, bronze scissors and nail-cleaners.



MILITARY EQUIPMENT. The principal weapons were the scramasax or dagger, the spear, often twice barbed, and the straight double-edged sword which was used only by horsemen. A leather byrnie or tunic was commonly worn, but the round or oval linden-wood shield was the chief means of defence.



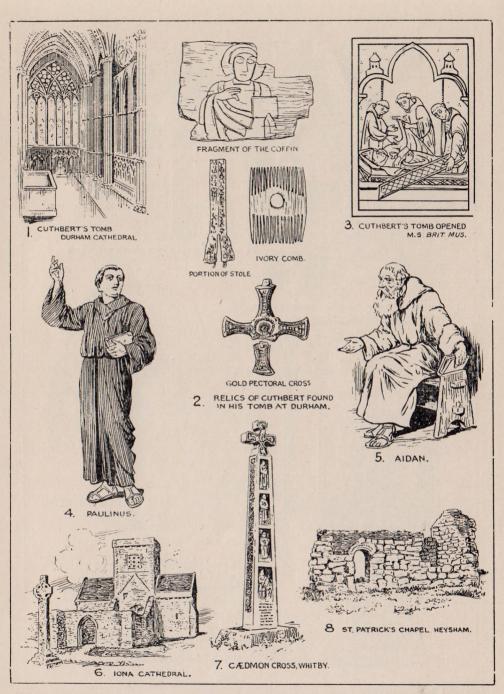
WEAPONS AND ARMOUR. The characteristic English helmets were those of Phrygian shape, though conical and hemispherical ones were common. The shield umbo was usually spiked in order to make it an effective weapon at close quarters.



ENGLISH CRAFTSMANSHIP. The skill of the English craftsmen is expressed by superior workmanship, grace of form and treatment of subject. Necklaces, and especially their accompanying pendants, were rich and varied, some being formed of precious stones set in gold.



THE ROMAN CHURCH. Christianity was re-established in southern England by the work of St. Augustine and his followers, Roman missionaries, who in A.D. 597 converted the people of Kent and afterwards undertook the conversion of the neighbouring kingdoms of Essex, Sussex and Wessex.



THE CELTIC CHURCH. The conversion of Northern England was begun in A.D. 627 by a Roman monk, Paulinus, but was completed by Celtic monks from lona, notably, Aidan (d. 651) and Colman (d. 676). In A.D. 664, the Celtic Monks relinquished their work, the decision of the Synod of Whitby being in favour of the Roman Church.



I CAEDMON SINGING BEFORE THE ABBESS HILDA



2. PART OF A PAGE FROM A SAXON BOOK



3 ST. LUKE FROM A SEVENTH CENTURY M.S.

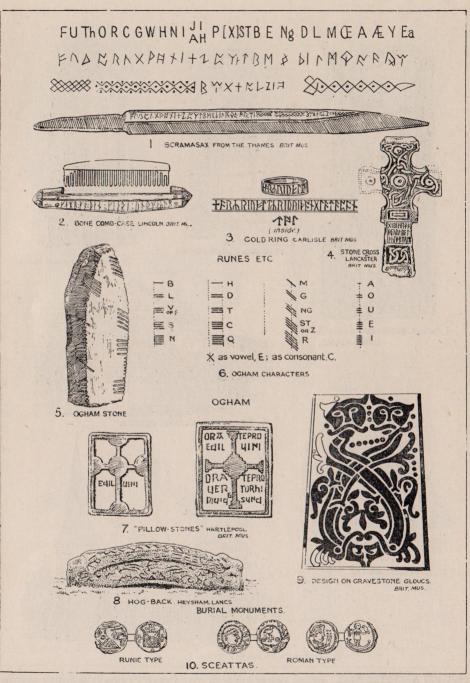


5. FROM AN EIGHTH CENT M.S

Tiremponub: middil sizli idge medi tenpang angli pub pruncipe peada xilio pendan nezir xiden of rachamera ugutanir pencepeguine;

6 PART OF A PAGE OF ONE OF BEDE'S WORKS

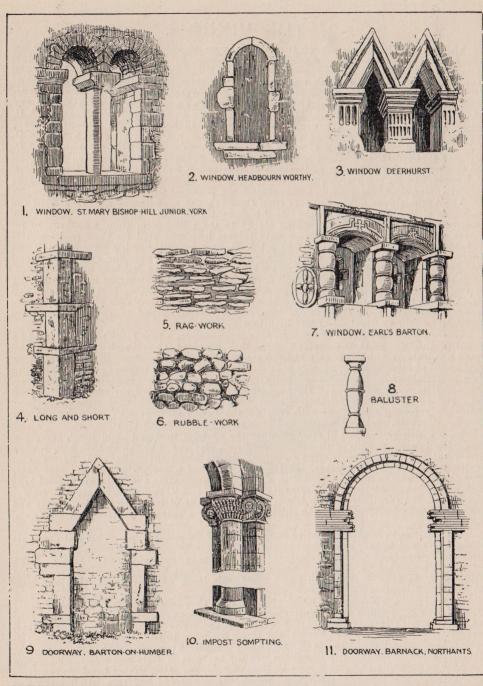
ENGLISH MANUSCRIPTS. The art of the English monks contemporary with Bede (A.D. 673-735) was notable for rich design, especially in the decoration of initials, and for neat but beautiful round lettering. Many manuscripts evidence an amazing skill, their pages being masterpieces of ornate design and brilliant colouring.



ENGLISH INSCRIPTIONS. Runes were curious angular letters used in all Teutonic lands between the 3rd and 9th centuries. Ogham originated in Ireland and probably arose from the use of the fingers and thumbs to indicate sounds. Roman letters replaced both systems as Christianity progressed.



ENGLISH ARCHITECTURE. Ruined Roman buildings were frequently rebuilt as English churches. Otherwise, churches were constructed of timber, stone being rarely used before the 11th century. The earliest types were extremely crude, the main motive being apparently to reproduce with stone the architectural features of the timber hall.



ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL. Large arches were semi-circular like Roman arches, but narrow openings had often triangular or straight-lined heads built up of irregular blocks. Windows were often divided by balusters copied from Roman types. In many doorways, tiles were set between arch and impost to give the effect of moulding.

2. THE VIKINGS.

The 7th and 8th centuries (A.D. 613-829) were occupied by the long struggle for supremacy waged between the Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms, by which a measure of national unity was achieved through the consolidation of the Kingdoms of Northumbria, Mercia and Wessex. The end of the struggle was marked by the incursions of the pagan Northmen or Vikings who conquered the whole of England except Wessex, which maintained its independence under Alfred the Great (A.D. 871-901), whose successor, Edward, Athelstan and Edgar, subdued and Anglicised the Danes and formed the single Kingdom of England (A.D. 901-975). Following this, the weakness of Edward and Ethelred was responsible for a renewal of the Danish incursions (A.D. 979), the Danish Conquest under Sweyn (A.D. 1002-1013), and the foundation of an Anglo-Danish Kingdom under his son Canute (A.D. 1017-1035). In A.D. 1042, the English Dynasty was restored by the accession of Edward the Confessor under whom the active work of government was maintained by Godwin, Earl. of Wessex, and his son Harold, who became King in A.D. 1066, but was in the same year defeated and slain at Hastings in battle against the Normans under William the Conqueror.

The Vikings were pirate warriors from Denmark and Scandinavia who devastated the seaboards of Western Europe in the late 8th and 9th centuries. They were a highly virile race, intelligent and brave, but, owing chiefly to the influence of their paganism, so inhunanly brutal that rarely in history have raiders been so feared for their cold ferocity. In battle the Vikings were protected by a helmet, corselet and shield, a light but sufficient armour which never hampered them. Their principal weapons were the sword, spear and battle-axe all of which they improved into a higher efficiency than had been hitherto known. Their earliest vessels were merely small open boats, but their experience led them rapidly to evolve their characteristic long, slim ships, shallow in draught, broad in beam, and rising high into a stern and prow carved to resemble dragons. As such ships increased in seaworthiness and size, the Vikings became inordinately proud of them, giving them

poetical names, rich decorations and luxurious appointments.

When the Vikings were not fighters, they were farmers whose fields were cultivated by slaves or thralls. In their homeland where they wintered, their harsh environment produced a culture in which savagery blended strangely with civilization. In many ways they were ahead of other nations, notably in seamanship and military efficiency and mobility; in their potentialities for commerce and industry; and, in their innate capacities for organization and law. They were vain of their appearance, for they combed their long hair, bathed daily and frequently changed their clothes. On the other hand, they were so barbaric that they revenged themselves with fury on the bodies of their foes; they burned and

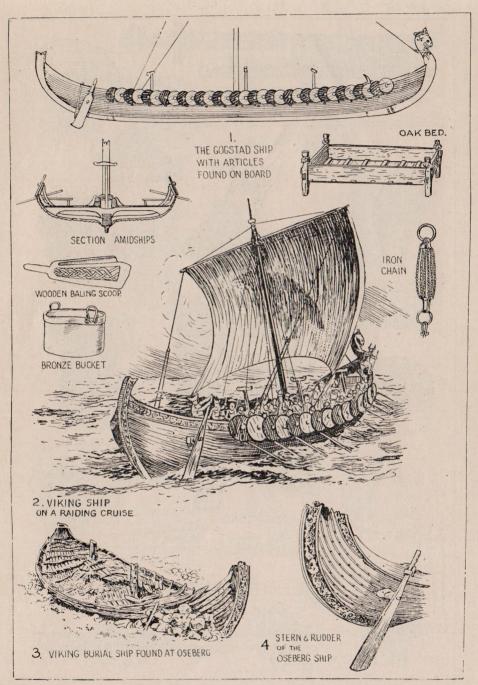
ravaged wantonly, and slew women and even children in fiendish sport.

Even a rich Viking jarl or chief lived on the coarsest food and amid rough surroundings. His house was built of timber plastered with clay and, like the English hall, it comprised but one large room, having curtained alcoves along the walls. The floor was of beaten earth strewn with rushes. In the middle burned a fire. The windows were holes near the roof which could be closed with shutters. Surrounding the hall were several huts such as kitchen, bath-nouse and servants' dwellings, and at a distance were the stables and barns. The furniture in such homes consisted chiefly of beds, long tables, chests and benches, usually richly carved; the chief's chair being a sacred seat supported on carved

pillars.

The Vikings were extravagant in dress and loved especially robes of fur and garments of wool, silk and linen. They fastened their clothing with massive brooches of silver and bronze. They wore arm-rings, necklaces of gold and heavy beads of glass and amber. Many ornaments and other metal objects such as horse trappings were decorated strangely, not with figures of animals, but with parts of animals, such as their heads, tails and legs, woven into an intermingled design.

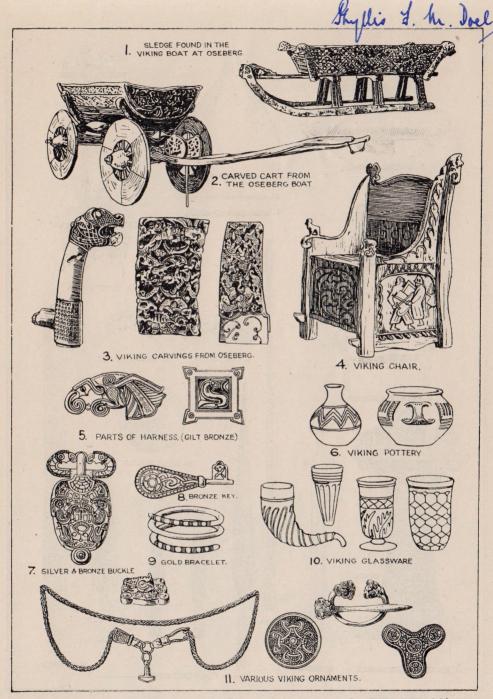
Piracy lured the Vikings far afield. Sailing what they termed the "Easternway" they invaded Russia. Sailing the "Westernway" they ravaged everywhere so ruthlessly that for a century their ships spread the wildest panic. The British coasts became their favourite hunting ground. In France, the rivers led them to rich booty far inland. Their boldest bands attacked the coasts of Spain and Portugal. They entered the Mediterranean, where they conquered Sicily, pillaged the wealthy seaports of Italy and Greece and sacked the Arab settlements and pirate lairs in Northern Africa. One Viking band, driven from the Hebrides, explored the Arctic Sea, where they discovered and colonized Iceland and Greenland. A century later, in the year A.D. 1000, their descendants explored the coast of Labrador and the Mouth of the St. Lawrence and were therefore, though they failed to make settlements, the earliest Europeans to reach the New World continent of North America.



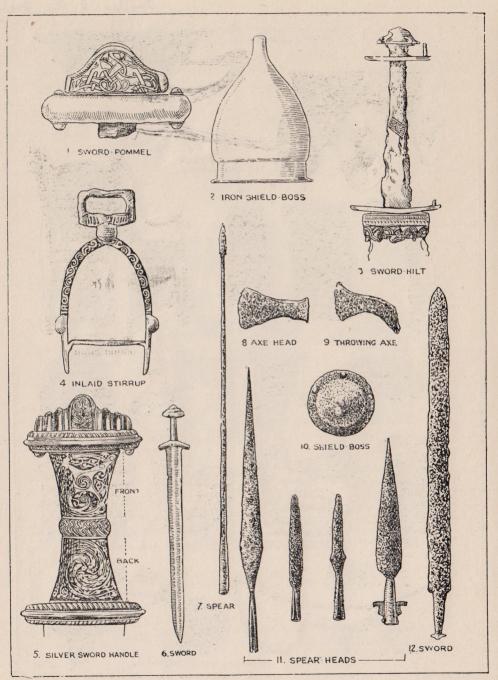
VIKING SHIPS. Typical Viking ships were oak-built vessels, long, broad and surprisingly shallow. They were roomy, well appointed, richly decorated and thoroughly seaworthy, though they varied greatly in size, ranging from thirty to sixty-four oars. The type of vessel originated by the Vikings endured until the fourteenth century.



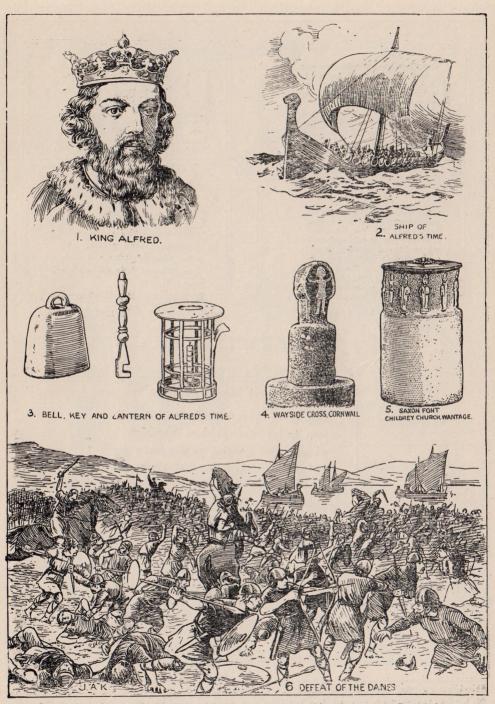
VIKING ARMOUR AND WEAPONS. Helmets were close fitting, round, metal caps distinguished by horns and wings. Corselets were thick, leather jackets covered with iron scales or rings. The principal weapons were the sword, spear and battle-axe, all of which were commonly engraved with runes and designs.



VIKING ART. Artistic conceptions were original but barbaric. Furniture was richly and extravagantly carved. Pottery and glass were decorated with simple line patterns. Personal ornaments, notably metal brooches, exhibit extremes, some of these being monstrosities grotesquely decorated.



VIKING ANTIQUITIES. Innumerable Viking relics have been found throughout the British Isles, the most common being richly decorated weapons, the metal parts of harness, hoards of coins and other treasure, and the charred remains of ships. When found, the Hexham Bucket (page 9, No. 8) contained 8,000 "stycas" or Northumbrian coins.



ALFRED THE GREAT, A.D. 871-901. Alfred was the most able of the early English kings. He maintained the independence of Wessex against the Danes, and by his wise and efficient government, he regenerated the English people and attained renown as a statesman, lawmaker and scholar.

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I. EXTRACT FROM INE'S LAWS.

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3. EXTRACT FROM ETHELRED'S LAWS

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2. EXTRACT FROM ALFRED'S LAWS

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rape Toe heappe piedde rya hpaden pa

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4 EXTRACT FROM CANUTE'S LAWS.

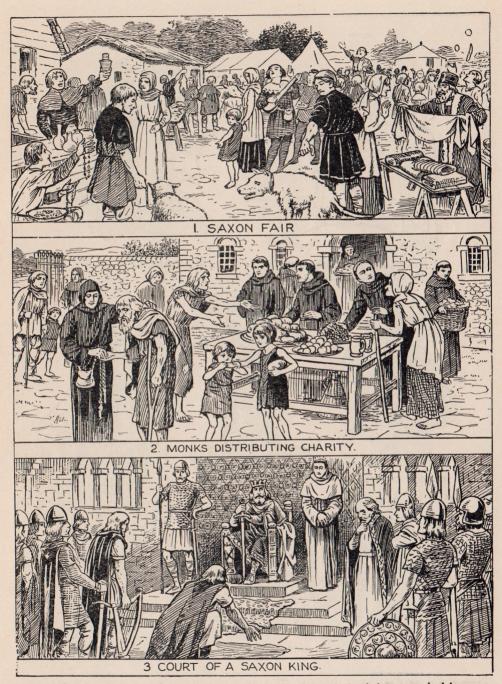
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5 FRAGMENT FROM "BEOWULF".

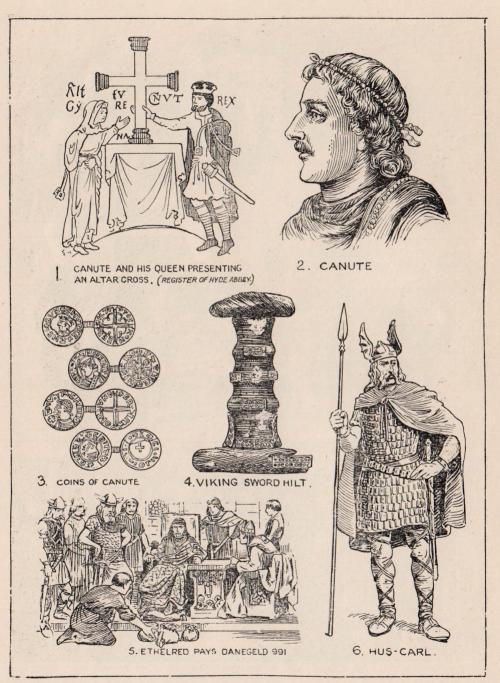
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6. CÆDMON'S HYMN OF PRAISE.

ENGLISH CODES. Writings increased as Christianity progressed. Laws were recorded in Books or Codes: events were entered in Chronicles and documents of various types were drafted, the most important being Charters in which rights were granted, and Deeds which proved the ownership of land.



THE LATER ENGLISH. The conversion of the English to Christianity led to a marked improvement in their civilization. The efficient organization of the Church ably assisted the civil governments, instituted maturer systems of law and justice and fostered both religious and secular learning.



CANUTE, A.D. 1017-35. The work of Canute is characterized by efficient government, firm rule. improvement in the national institutions and a notable expansion of industry and trade. His reign is important as it helped to unite English and Danes under one head.



EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, A.D. 1042-66. The accession of Edward restored the English dynasty, though the active work of government was carried on by Godwin, Earl of Wessex, and his son Harold, who, after becoming King in A.D. 1066, was in the same year defeated and killed at Hastings.

3. THE NORMANS. A.D. 1066-1154.

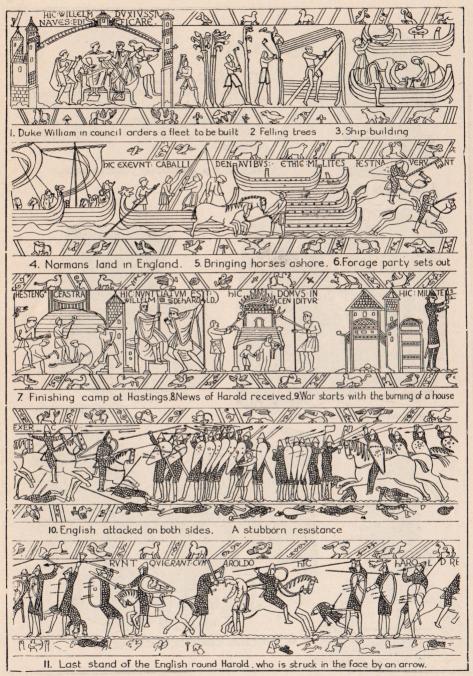
The Normans were descendants of the Northmen invaders of France who in A.D. 912 had settled in territory granted to them by Charles the Simple. Their leader Rolf became their Duke, and as his successors were able rulers and warriors, their Province, Normandy, was soon established as one of the most powerful in France.

In Normandy the Vikings became Christians and adopted the French language and culture. These conditions so stimulated their own instincts that they rapidly improved almost every feature, moral, spiritual and practical, available to them in the French civilization. Thus, they strengthened Law when they replaced their barbarous legal usages by Feudal institutions. They invigorated religion by a fanatical zeal expressed in the founding of bishoprics and the ceaseless building of churches and monasteries, in which they also developed an impressive and characteristic architecture. Warfare, which like religion dominated them, they intensified by their masterly horsemanship, by their creation of an offensive and defensive strategy, and by their improvements in weapons and armour, notably the long bow and lance, the round, close-fitting helmet having a nasal or nose-guard and the long kite-like shield designed to protect a knight's thigh when on horseback. Instead of building Viking Halls, the Normans adopted the French defensive dwelling, the fortified wooden tower erected on a moated mound, which later developed into stone-built strongholds such as keeps and castles.

The progress of the Normans in France was so consistent that by the middle of the 11th century, when Duke William ruled them, they were renowned as the most active and enterprising race in Europe. Especially striking is the contrast between the fewness of their numbers and the greatness and frequency of their achievements. For at the same time as William invaded England (A.D. 1066), other Norman leaders fought in Germany, Spain and Italy, and adventurous knights sought renown as Crusaders in the East. A chronicler, who knew their exploits well, described them as "a race especially marked by cunning eager after dominion and gain and given to imitation of all kinds. They were, moreover, eloquent, so that the very boys were orators; a race altogether unbridled unless held further and cold wherever fortune laid it on them." As they were enduring of toil, hunger and cold wherever fortune laid it on them." As they were splendid horsemen, hunting was their delight, and they gloried in combats and sports which fitted them for war. Being eager travellers, they sought adventures in Crusades and pilgrimages, and as zealous Christians they welcomed into Normandy men of learning, skill and eminence from every land.

Though so devoted to the destructive arts of war, the Normans had not neglected those of peace. Among their clergy, were scholars of renown. Among their warriors were statesmen and administrators. Among the great mass of the people were artisans and craftsmen highly skilled, especially as masons, armourers, carpenters and jewellers. Under the stern rule of Duke William, Normandy was orderly and prosperous. Its fertile lands provided for a numerous peasantry. Its towns housed workmen and merchants from neighbouring lands. Its quiet monasteries were not only centres of religion and education, but also training grounds—in their fields for farmers, in their schools for lawyers and priests, and in their libraries and workshops for artists and craftsmen. The Normans were a great and noble race, and though they prided themselves upon efficiency in war, they are now more renowned for their architecture or skill in building. They were disciplined and trained, and in peace and war, so their poets sang, their stern and stormy spirits were "bridled" by rigorous laws. Thus the Normans who occupied England were not merely conquerors, but statesmen and lawmakers, firm in rule and highly gifted in the arts of government.

The Norman Conquest of England (A.D. 1066) was decisive; it revolutionized English History. Though akin to the English, the Normans were more cultured and had greater capacities for organization and government. After their settlement they retained all that was best in English institutions, related England closely with the Continent and, by forming a strong government under the royal control, aided the growth of a united nation Owing to England's insularity and the numerical inferiority of the Normans, the two peoples became one. Also, the Norman kings cultivated the support of their English subjects; English became established as the national tongue, and distinctions between the races eventually disappeared.



THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY. This well known Tapestry presents a unique and valuable picture of Norman life. In seventy-two scenes it illustrates the events which led to the Norman Conquest of England, beginning with Harold's visit to Bosham on his way to Normandy and ending with the Norman victory at Hastings.



I. WILLIAM I.

DEVENES CIRE.

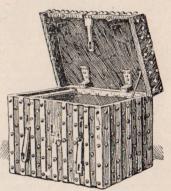
TERRA REGIS

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2. FACSIMILE OF A PORTION OF DOMESDAY BOOK.



3 HEREWARD SUBMITS TO WILLIAM

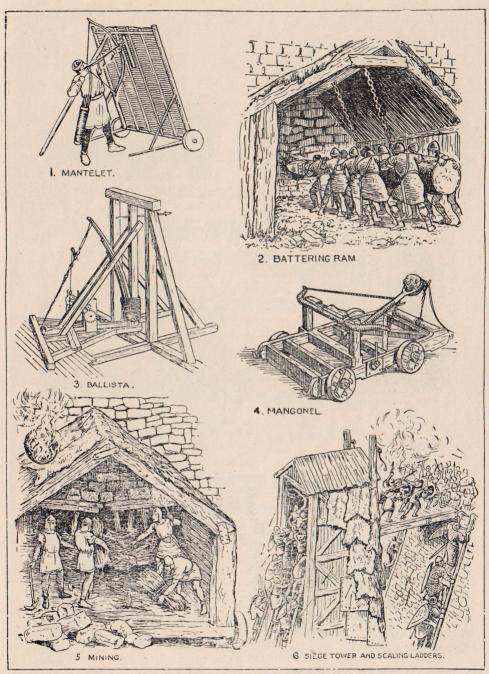


4 DOMESDAY CHEST.

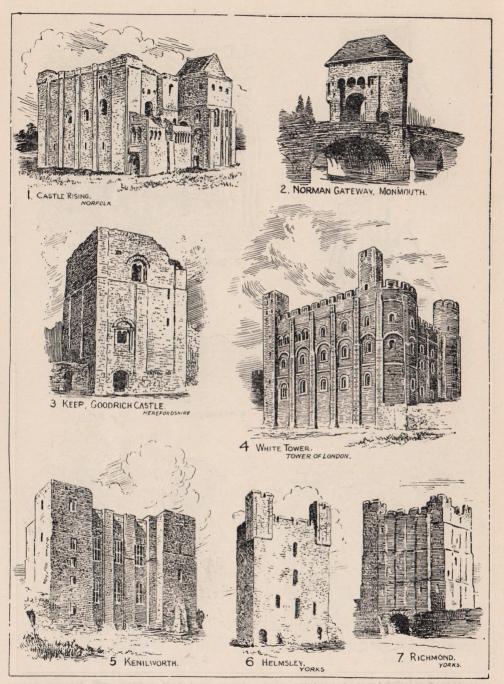


6. DOMESDAY COMMISSIONERS AT WORK

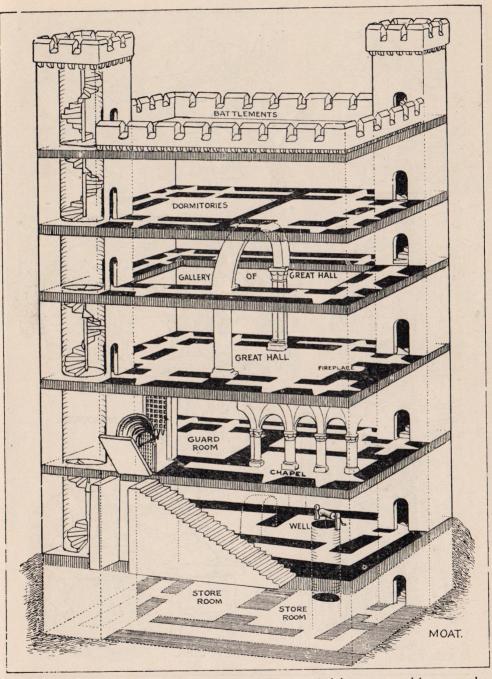
WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR, A.D. 1066-1087. William's firm rule disciplined the Anglo-Norman people and founded our national unity. Aided by Lanfranc, he reorganized the English Church. He fostered the growth of towns by supporting industry and trade, and gave the English the benefits of the Norman civilization.



NORMAN ARTILLERY. With rare exceptions, the surrender of a stone-built Norman keep could only be enforced by a prolonged siege. Therefore, machines were designed to effect a breach in a wall or its collapse. If storming were attempted, the besiegers used ladders and tall towers from which they leapt down to the parapet.



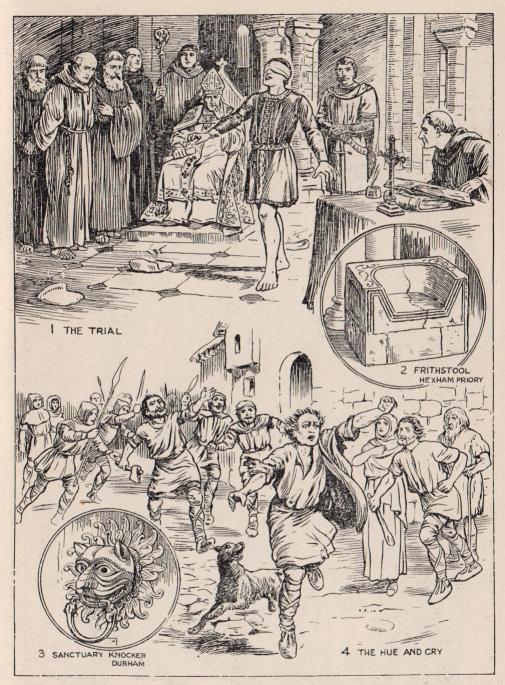
NORMAN KEEPS. Stone-built Keeps express the main characteristics of the early Norman Architecture, and are among the chief remains of the Normans in England. They were erected, where they were protected by natural defences or in large centres of population, as safeguards against revolt.



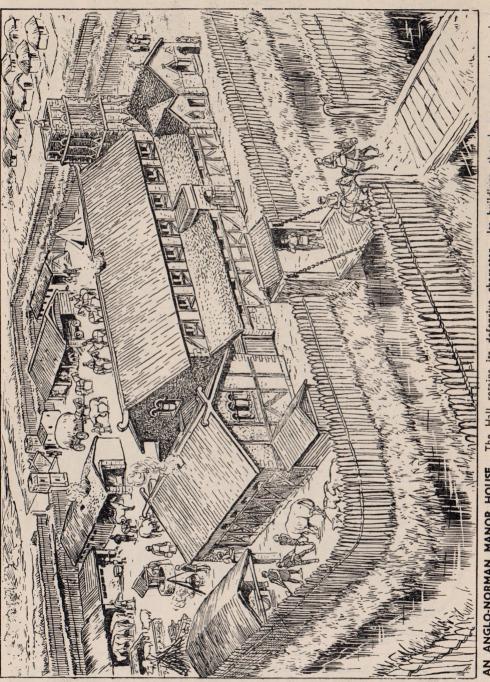
GENERAL ARCHITECTURE OF A NORMAN KEEP. A typical keep was a plain rectangular tower with thick walls and narrow windows. It was both stronghold and residence and was designed essentially for security and the maintenance of a large garrison for a long period. The chief weakness was the liability of the garrison to disease



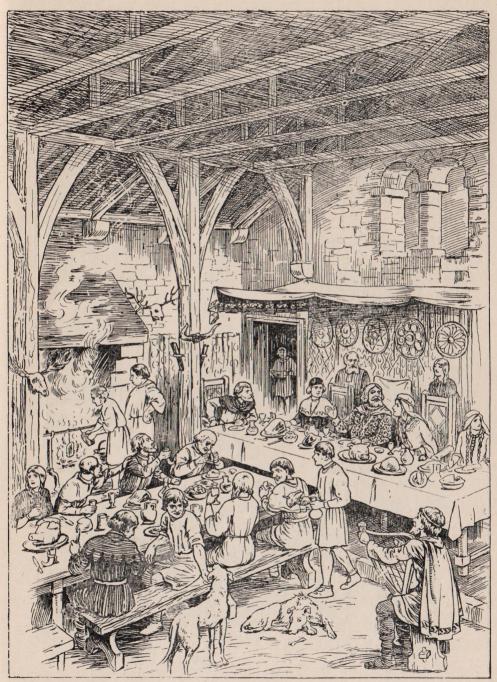
NORMAN ARTISANS. Norman zeal for building led to a great influx of skilled Norman craftsmen, notably masons, carpenters, glass makers and metal workers



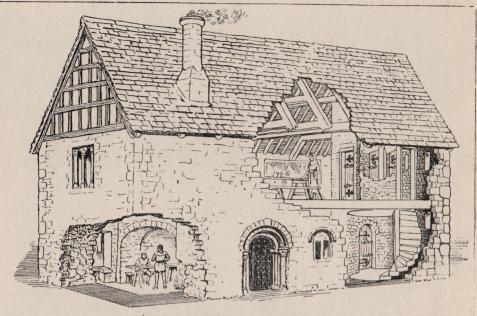
JUSTICE. Under both Saxons and Normans a form of Ordeal conducted under the supervision of the Church was a common mode of trial. A criminal in danger from mob violence might obtain sanctuary, or the protection of the Church, until he could be given a legal trial.



Its buildings, though more pretentious than AN ANGLO-NORMAN MANOR HOUSE. The Hall retains its defensive character. Its buildings, though more pretentious than formerly, are designed to enclose a large courtyard, the domestic buildings forming a compact group distinct from out-buildings such as stables, barns and workshops.



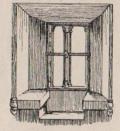
DINING IN HALL. Dinner was a state meal at which hospitality was exercised liberally and freely among all classes. The upper classes drank wine and relished roast venison and pork, game and poultry stuffed with herbs and fish served in a tasty sauce. All at the lower table drank ale and had a greater liking for boiled mutton and beef eaten with thick hunks of bread.



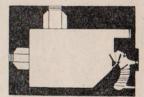
I RECONSTRUCTION, MILLICHOPE MANOR.



2. PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR



3. INSIDE OF WINDOW



4. PLAN OF UPPER FLOOR



5. ANGLO NORMAN HOUSE, OLD MS

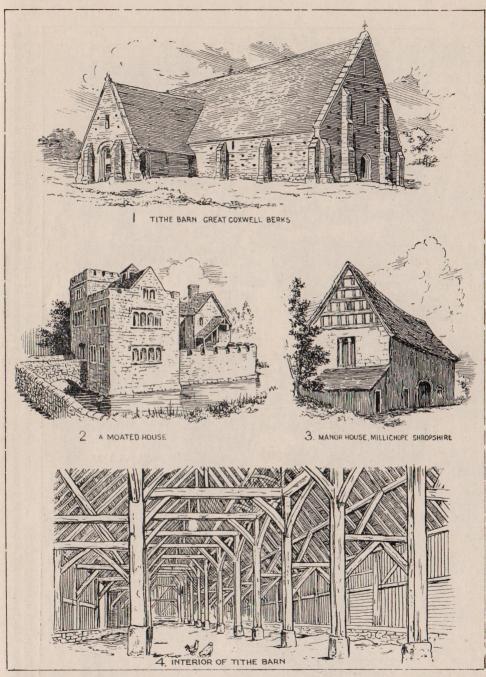


6. HALL AND CHAMBER.

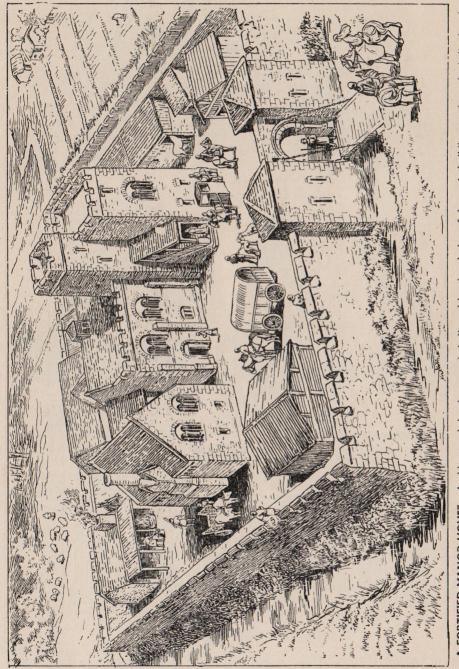


7. KNIGHTS IN WAITING

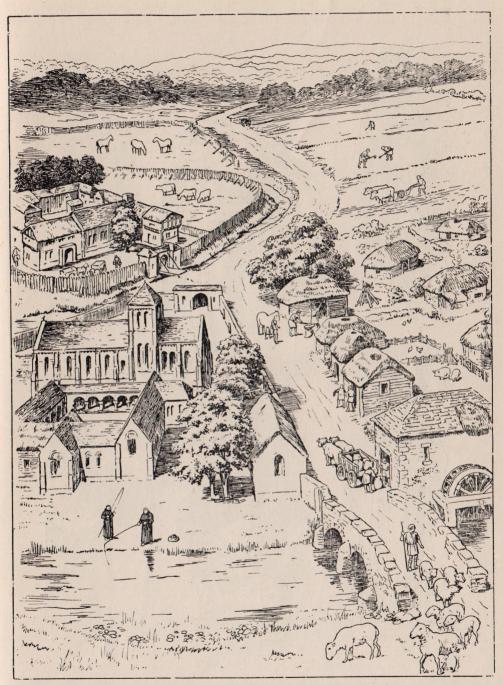
NORMAN MANOR HOUSE. Under Stephen (A.D. 1135-54), stone manor houses, comprising two stories began to be built. The upper floor was a "Solar" or sun room, and though a rest room or room of honour for the lodging of rich guests, it was essentially a refuge in which the owner and his family locked themselves each night.



DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE. Manor Houses exhibit the same general architectural features as castles, their characteristics being the high-pitched tiled or slated roof, the tall chimney and the outside staircase giving access to the upper floor.



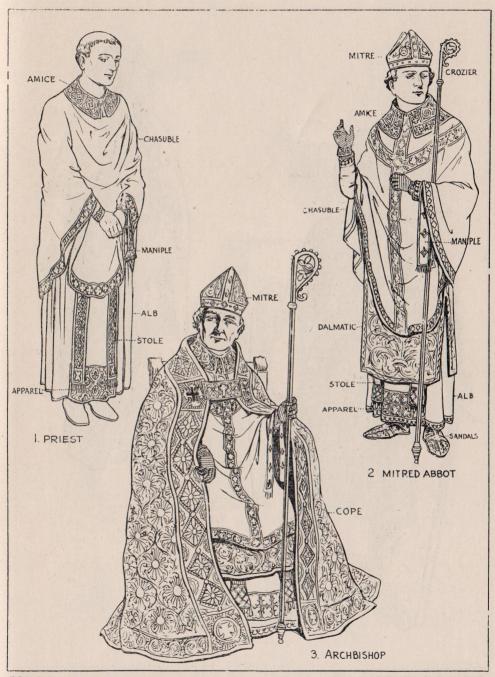
A FORTIFIED MANOR HOUSE. Architectural development is indicated by the placing of domestic buildings such as the hall, chapel, bower, bed-chambers and kitchen in a compact group of separate yet connected buildings. Outbuildings such as barns are arranged along the outer walls as in earlier houses.



A NORMAN VILLAGE. The Normans established social life on a feudal basis, a main principle being the grant to freemen, under a lord, of definite rights in the use of land in return for specified services chiefly military and agricultural.



TYPICAL NORMANS. The Conquest led to no great changes in dress except that, under William Rufus (A.D. 1087-1100), there arose a love of luxury and a taste for embroidered garments, long, pointed shoes and flowing hair and beards, a fashion denounced by the clergy as uncivilized



ECCLESIASTICAL VESTMENTS. The vestments of a priest in the order they were put on were the "Amice," "Alb," "Maniple," "Stole," and "Chasuble." The "Alb" was worn by all Church officials, that of the priest being distinguished by "Apparels," i.e. six pieces of embroidered linen attached to it.



NORMAN KNIGHT AND LADY. Few changes occurred in military dress. The conical helmet fitted with a metal nasal, and the loose hauberk of leather or of quilted or padded material. covered with metal plates or rings, were characteristic.



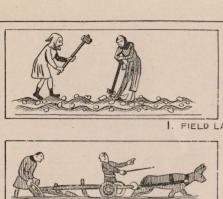
MILITARY EQUIPMENT. Norman infantry comprised spearmen and bowmen, but the essential warrior was the mounted knight who relied for offence upon the lance and sword, and for defence upon the helmet, hauberk and shield.



DOMESTIC LIFE. The Normans introduced a more luxurious life into England. They had more and better furniture in their homes. Chests and coffers were elaborately decorated. Tables, benches and stools were plain but massive. Beds were large and ornamental.



MUSICIANS. Both English and Normans loved and encouraged music, favourite instruments being the harp, fiddle and flute. Wind instruments were bagpipes, bassoons and trombones, and many varieties of horn and metal trumpets were used by huntsmen and herdsmen.



1. FIELD LABOURERS.



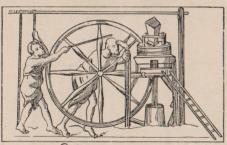
2 NORMAN WHEELED PLOUGH.



REAPING AND GLEANING.



5. MEN BOUND AND IN STOCKS



6 CORN HAND MILL



THRESHING .

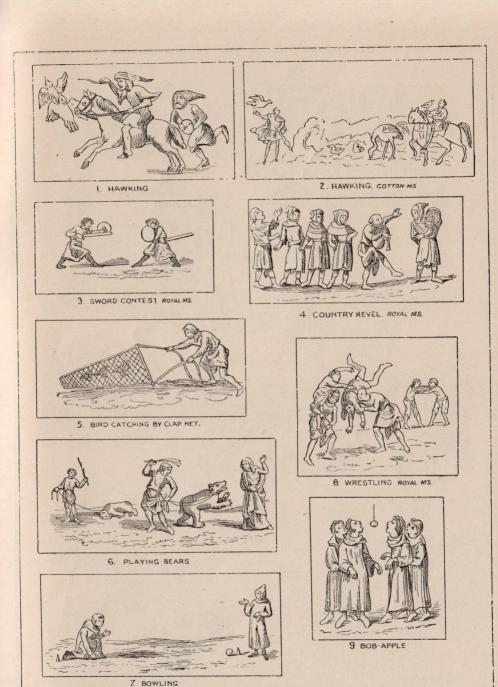


8. THE LORD OF THE MANOR'S MILL

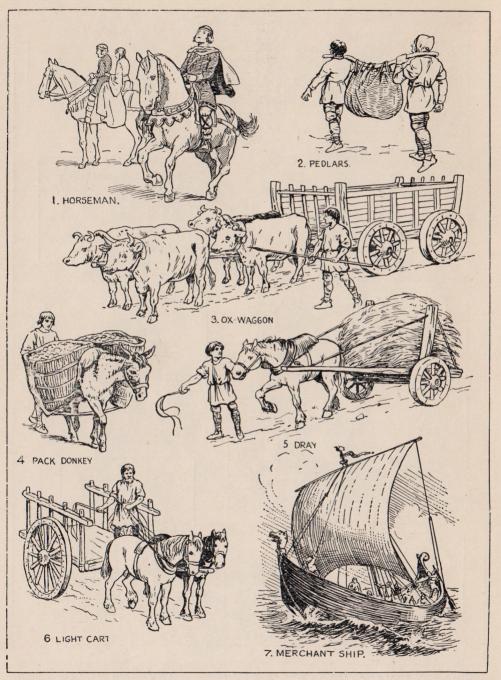


9 TREE FELLING (BAYEUX TAPESTRY)

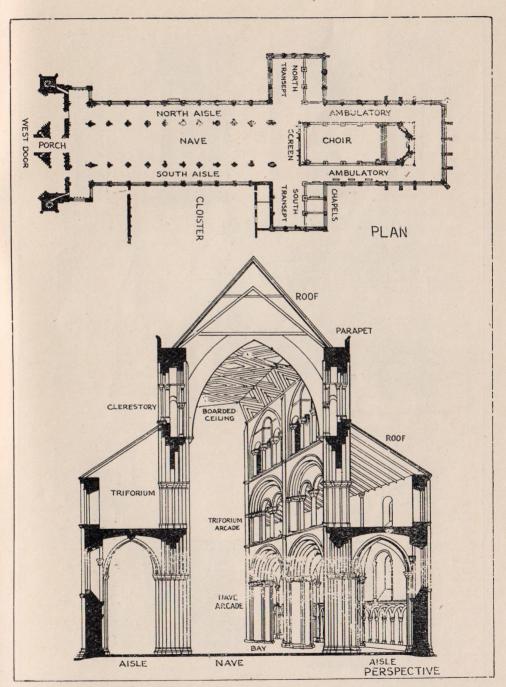
MANORIAL SERVICES. The land-owning peasant or villein depended upon a feudal master who demanded his services and might take all he owned. By law he was bound to the soil; he was bought and sold with the manor and if he ran away he might be dragged back into slavery.



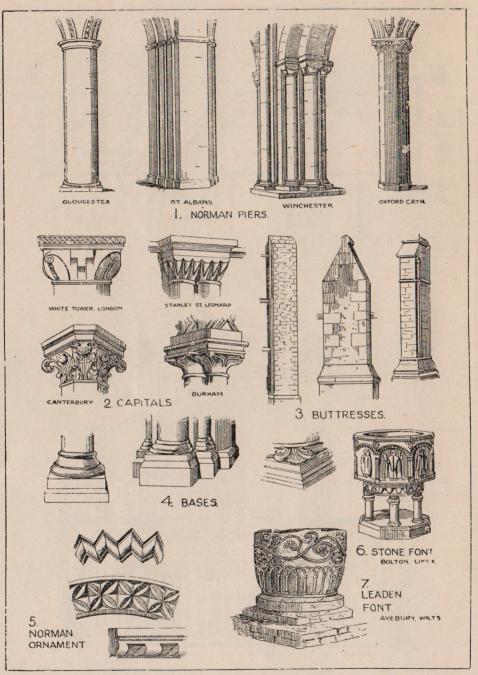
SPORTS AND PASTIMES. Hunting with hawk and hound, though confined to the noble classes, was a passion with both English and Normans. Young folk enjoyed mock fights or wrestling bouts, and quieter games of bowls and bob apple. During the great feast seasons of Harvest and Christmas, merriment was unrestrained.



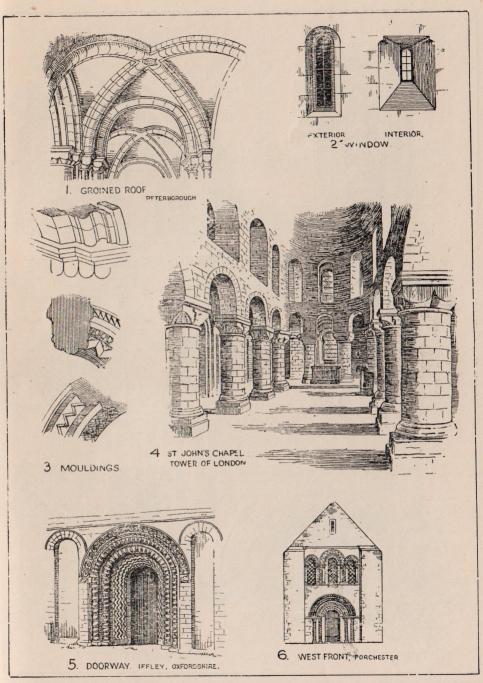
TRANSPORT AND TRAVEL. Pack donkeys and mules were the usual means of transport except for heavy goods. Travellers and messengers rode on horseback across country, ladies usually riding pillion. Overseas trade was chiefly with Normandy, Germany and Ireland.



ECCLESIASTICAL ARCHITECTURE. The Normans were zealous builders of cathedrals, abbeys and parish churches, over seven thousand being built between A.D. 1066 and A.D. 1154. With few exceptions all types were cruciform in plan and all express identical conceptions in construction.



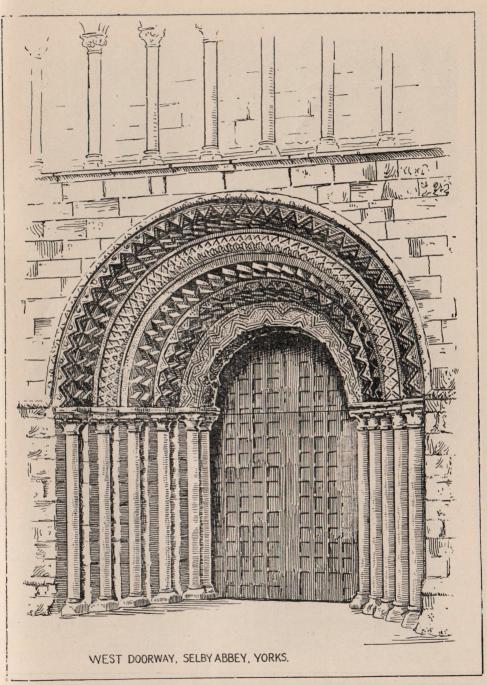
ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS. In general, Norman craftsmen used unsuitable tools. They squared stones with the hammer, cut them with the axe and carved them with the pick. Consequently, ornament was lacking or it was imperfect, unnatural and never deeply cut. Profuse ornament is indicative of late Norman work.



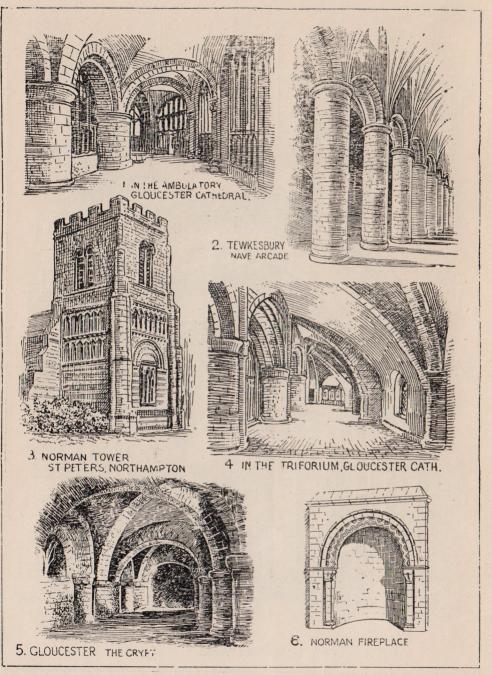
ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES. The best known features of Norman architecture are the pieces doorways and arches. Piers are usually round, and though they appear solid many have been found to be mere shells filled inside with rubble and sand.



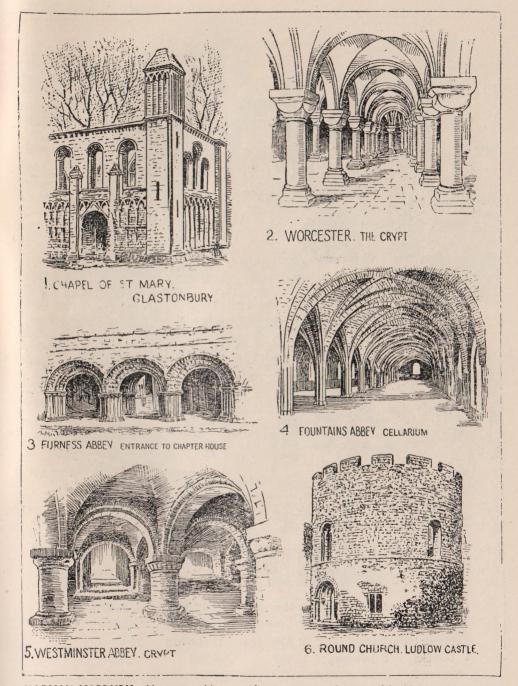
NORMAN ARCHES. Most Norman arches are semi-circular. In the early period they were plain, but later they were enriched with a variety of carved mouldings, the most common being those known as beak-head, lozenge, zig-zag, and billet.



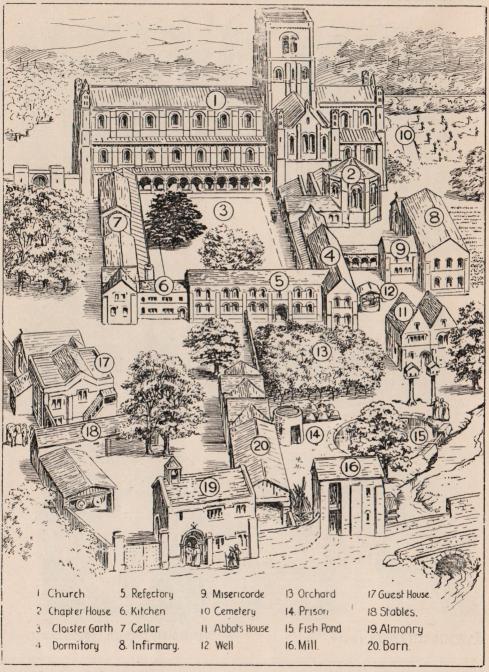
A NORMAN DOORWAY. Doorways express the highest art of the Norman builders. They pierce the thickness of the wall in a series of "Orders" or ever lessening arches, the outer edges of each, except where shafts ornament the perpendicular portion, forming a band of moulding richly carved.



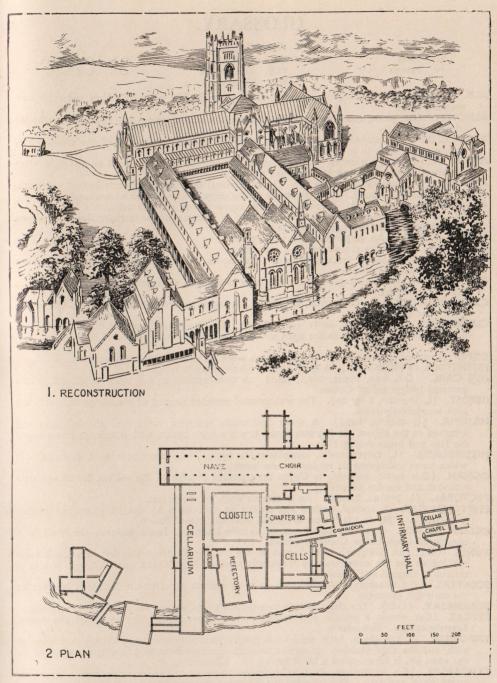
ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER. Strength was the keynote of the Norman character, and this is admirably denoted by the Norman builders. Massive columns sometimes rise to dizzy heights, but even where they are squat they still express a ponderous strength which is usually emphasized by their simplicity.



NORMAN MASONRY. Norman architects and masons were pioneers of building. They copied Roman buildings, but they lacked the detailed knowledge of the Roman craftsmen. Thus, early Norman work was rough; it lacked grace and finish, and construction was often faulty. In general, stones were ill-dressed and buildings were often ill-proportioned.



A TYPICAL BENEDICTINE MONASTERY. The Norman Conquest strengthened the organization and increased the growth of monasteries. Though richly endowed, they were rigidly disciplined, and they became the chief means whereby the superior Norman civilization spread throughout England.



FOUNTAINS ABBEY, YORKSHIRE. This reconstruction from existing ruins indicates the extent and splendour of a great Cistercian monastery. The monks specialized in farming. They became so expert that they increased our agricultural prosperity and founded our commercial supremacy by their successful sheep-rearing and export of wool.

GLOSSARY.

Abbreviations.

Latin. Fr. French.

Gk. Greck. O.E. Old English. Ger. German.

O.Fr. Old French. O.lr. Old Irish.

ALB. (L. albus, white). A white vestment reaching to the feet worn by priests and some consecrated kings.

ALMONRY. (Gk. eleos, compassion). That portion of a monastery set apart for the distribution of alms or charity.

AMBULATORY. (L. ambulare, walk). The part of an abbey, usually around the choir, where monks might walk in meditation.

AMICE. (L. 1 mictus, garment). A large square of white linen embroidered on one side, worn (in the Church of Rome) by celebrant priests. APPAREL. (O.Fr. apareiller, make fit). The ornamental embroidery on ecclesiastical vestments. APSE. (Gk. hapsis, vault). A semi-circular or multangular termination of a church choir. ARCADE. (L. arcus, bow). A range of arches supported on piers or columns.

BILLEY. (Fr. bille, tree-trunk). A moulding used in Norman times; it resembles short pieces of stick cut off and arranged alternately.

BURGH or BURH. An Anglo-Saxon fortified place. CELLARIUM. (L.). The store-room in a monastery.

CEORL. An Anglo-Saxon freeman who was not noble. After the Norman Conquest ceorls became classed as villeins.

CHASUBLE. (L. casa, cottage). The short back and breast vestment worn by a celebrant at Mass or Eucharist.

CINERARY VESSEL. (L. cinerarius, of ashes). A vessel or urn for holding the ashes of the dead after cremation.

CLERESTORY. (Clear Storey, or Fr. clair, light). The uppermost story of a church; the one having arches or windows to the open air thus forming the main source of lighting. cf. Tri-

COPE. (L. capa, cap=covering). A long cloak worn by ecclesiastics in processions.

FRITHSTOOL or FRIDSTOOL. A chair or seat which afforded sanctuary. HUS CARL. (O.E. hus, house, coorl, man). A term applied to a warrior appointed to the personal bodyguard of Canute. (MPOST. (L. impono, I lay on). The architectural member formed of mouldings on which the

arch immediately rests.

MANIPLE. (L. manus, hand). A short Eucharistic vestment worn over the left arm and attached to the sleeve. In Norman times, it was a linen square with which the priest wiped his face and brow during Mass.

MISERICORDS. (L. misericordia, compassionate heart). An apartment in a monastery in which some indulgence or relaxation was permitted.

OGHAM. (O.Ir. ogam, referring to Ogma, the supposed inventor). An ancient British and Irish alphabet and system of writing.

PECTORAL. (L. pectus, breast). An ornament worn on the breast.

PHRYGIAN CAP. A conical, peaked cap similar to that worn by the Phrygians, an ancient people of Asia Minor. It is now identified with the cap of liberty.

PILLOW STONES. Small sepulchral stones, usually inscribed, found beneath the skull in a

number of Anglo-Saxon Christian graves.

RUNES. (O.E. run, whisper). The letters of the carliest Teutonic alphabet, developed from the 3rd to the 9th centuries, and frequently used in Anglo-Saxon inscriptions with a mysterious or magical significance. SCEATTAS. (O.E. treasure). Anglo-Saxon coins of various types in use from the late 6th to

the early 8th centuries.

SCRAMASAX. (O.E.). The characteristic sword-knife or dagger carried by the Anglo-Saxons. STYCAS. (Ger. stuck, a piece). Northumbrian coins generally contemporary with the Anglo-Saxon sceattas. See above.

TRIFORIUM. (L. tri, three; foris, door). A gallery formed between the sloping roof over an aisle, and the aisle vaulting. It occurs in large churches only, and, having no windows to the open air, is often called a blind storey. cf. Clerestory.

TYMPANUM. (Gk. tumpanon, drum). A semi-circular or triangular space over a door, between lintel and arch. This afforded the Normans opportunities for decorative sculpture. UMBO. (Gk. ambon, boss). The metal knob usually protruding from the centre of a shield. WITAN or WITANAGEMOT. (O.E.). The Moot or Council of Wise Men; the national but unrepresentative assembly in Anglo-Saxon kingdoms.



